

REPORT
OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
AND

THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

IN RELATION TO

The continuation of the compilation and publication of the American State Papers.

DECEMBER 7, 1859.—Read and ordered to lie on the table.

JANUARY 9, 1860.—Referred to the Committee on Printing.

JANUARY 24, 1860.—Report in favor of printing submitted, considered, and agreed to.

CAPITOL OF THE UNITED STATES, *December 7, 1859.*

To the honorable the Senate and

House of Representatives of the United States:

The undersigned have the honor to report to Congress that in obedience to the nineteenth section of the "Act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the year ending the 30th of June, eighteen hundred and fifty-nine," approved the 12th of June, 1858, directing a continuance of the "compilation of congressional documents published by Congress under the name of the American State Papers, in the same manner as the first series," &c., the work has been continued since the first report of the undersigned, dated the 27th of January last. At that time two volumes had been compiled and printed—being one volume on Foreign Relations, making 943 pages, and one volume on Finance, making 1,098 pages folio. Since that time three additional volumes have been completed, and 528 pages of a fourth volume, these being—one volume on Foreign Relations, making 1,164 pages; one volume on Finance, making 1,170 pages; one volume on Public Lands, making 1,016 pages; and part of another volume on Public Lands, making 528 pages; and making in the whole 5,919 pages, which have been compiled and printed since the passage of the law above-mentioned.

This work has progressed under the special superintendence of the chief clerks of the two offices, and upon the plan and principles explained in our first report, to which we beg leave to refer, as also to

their report accompanying this, which explains more particularly the manner of executing the work and the details of progress.

The subject of making some provision for the execution of maps, plats, and drawings accompanying some of these State Papers, as suggested in the report accompanying this, is most respectfully submitted with this report, as also the subject of compensation for the labor and extra time occupied in the compilation of the matter, preparation of copy, and making indexes and tables of contents for these State Papers.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ASBURY DICKINS,

Secretary of the Senate.

J. C. ALLEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives of the United States.

UNITED STATES CAPITOL, *December 7, 1859.*

GENTLEMEN: Since our report dated the 25th of January last we resumed the compilation of the congressional documents published by Congress under the name of the American State Papers, under the nineteenth section of the "Act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the year ending the 30th of June, 1859," approved on the 12th of June last, directing a continuation of the same.

The plan and principles upon which this continuation of the State Papers was commenced, and has progressed, were so fully explained in our report above-mentioned that it is not considered necessary at this time to repeat that explanation.

At the date of the last report two volumes had been completed, being the fifth volume on Foreign Relations, making 943 pages, and the fourth volume on Finance, making 1,098 pages, and together making 2,041 pages.

Since that time there have been completed a sixth volume on Foreign Relations, making 1,164 pages; a fifth volume on Finance, making 1,170 pages; a fourth volume on Public Lands, making 1,016 pages; and 528 pages of a fifth volume on Public Lands have been compiled and printed; and making altogether 5,919 pages folio, which have been compiled, prepared, and printed since the passage of the law directing the publication, including five indexes and tables of contents.

Since our last report the sixth volume on Foreign Relations was first completed, and on the 13th of May last the first copy of the text was placed in the hands of Mr. Thomas W. Dickins, of the office of the Secretary of the Senate, for the purpose of making an index and table of contents, which were completed on the 22d of September last. The next volume completed was the fifth volume on Finance, which was placed in the hands of Mr. John Bailey, of the office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives, to make an index and table of contents, on the 25th of July last, which was completed on the 1st of November. The next volume completed was the fourth volume on Public Lands, and it being desirable to have the index and table of contents of this volume completed before the meeting of Congress, it was placed in the hands of Mr. Joseph H. Nicholson and Mr. E. T. Montague, of the

office of the Secretary of the Senate, on the 1st of October. The table of contents and the general part of the index was assigned to Mr. Nicholson, and the second part, being a reference to all the private land claims, was assigned to Mr. Montague, and both of these parts were completed on the 20th of November, and are now in the hands of the printer.

Messrs. McDonald, Price, and Page, of the office of the Secretary of the Senate, and Mr. Buck, of the office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives, were each employed one month in taking from the manuscript files documents required for the compilation of this work.

There is one object connected with this publication which was not particularly provided for in the act of the 12th June, 1858, directing the continuance of these State Papers, and that is the execution and printing of the maps, plats, and drawings connected with the documents, and necessary to a correct understanding and history of them. No provision was made for the expense of their execution in the contract made with Messrs. Gales & Seaton, as none existed in the law, yet the law requires that the work should be continued down to the 4th of March, 1859, "in the same manner as the first series thereof," which "manner" includes the maps, plats, and drawings connected with the State Papers communicated to Congress, and requisite to a proper elucidation and understanding of them. But few of these, however, have so far occurred, and these will be found in the sixth volume on Foreign Relations and the fourth volume on Public Lands. The expense of the execution of these plates has been voluntarily undertaken by the publishers, they expecting to be remunerated hereafter, but for the future it is respectfully suggested that the subject be submitted to Congress for their decision as to the execution of these maps, plats, and drawings, and as to a provision with regard to the manner and expense of having the work done.

The compilation of this work during the late recess of Congress required a very close and laborious occupation, without regard to the usual office hours, and being entirely extra-official, as was determined at the time of the publication of the first series of this work, consisting of twenty-one volumes, for which those engaged in it were allowed a reasonable compensation for the extraordinary labor, exercise of the mind, and responsibility connected with the work. No similar provision has been made in the present case, and it remains with Congress to exercise their pleasure upon the subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

W. HICKEY,

Chief Clerk Office of the Secretary of the Senate.

JOHN F. CARTER,

Chief Clerk Office House of Representatives, U. S.

